

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

PCT204-8

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016726

International filing date (day/month/year)

11.11.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

14.11.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

TORAY INDUSTRIES, INC.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016726

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language

_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐

a sequence listing

☐

table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐

in written format

☐

in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐

contained in the international application as filed.

☐

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐

furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016726

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: WO 2000/018564 A1 (Toray Industries, Inc.), 06 April 2000, Claims 4-7, page 5, line 24 to page 6, line 15; page 7, lines 5-27; page 8, line 18 to page 10, line 27; page 12, lines 14-16; table 1; examples 1-4
& EP 1044788 A1, Claims 4-7, paragraphs 0017-0021, 0028-0031, 0035-0046, 0053; table 1, examples 1-4

Document 2: JP 2001-294683 A (Toray Industries, Inc.), 23 October 2001, paragraph 0014; Claims 2-5, 7, 9, 10

Document 3: JP 2952907 B2 (Toray Industries, Inc.), 16 July 1999, Claim 1; page 3, left column, line 18 to page 4, left column, line 12

Document 4: JP 2003-160676 A (Toray Industries, Inc.), 03 June 2003, Claims 1-3; paragraphs 0004, 0036, 0041-0042

Document 5: JP 9-169860 A (Toray Industries, Inc.), 30 June 1997, Claims 2-3; paragraphs 0014-0017, 0024

Document 6: JP 2-37519 A (Teijin Ltd.), 07 February 1990, Claim 1; page 3, upper left column to page 3, upper right column; table 1

Document 7: JP 11-279293 A (Teijin Ltd.), 12 October 1999, Claims 1, 4; paragraphs 0008-0014

Document 8: JP 7-223288 A (Toray Industries, Inc.), 22 August 1995, Claim 1; paragraphs 0016-0020

The inventions of claims 1-5 are not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR and appear to possess novelty. In particular, making both the thermal expansion factor and the humidity expansion factor in the length direction larger than that in the width direction is not disclosed in any of the documents.